

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 03786 291805Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 EB-07

/075 W

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R 291710Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3574

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 3786

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OPEC, ASEC

SUBJECT: OPEC KIDNAPPING: MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS

1. DETAILS IN PARAS 2-5 ABOUT OPEC KIDNAPPING ARE FROM AN AMBASSADOR WHO HAD MINISTER AMONG VICTIMS. PARA 6 FROM AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR.

2. CARLOS. LEADER OF GROUP MADE STRONG IMPRESSION ON MINISTERS, WHO UNDERSTOOD HIM TO BE IN FACT NOTORIOUS CARLOS RAMIREZ. HE SPOKE ARABIC, BUT NOT WELL. ON OTHER HAND, HE HAD LONG AND FRIENDLY CONVERSATIONS IN SPANISH WITH VENEZUELAN MINISTER, WHO ALLEGEDLY PROMISED HIM AMNESTY ON HIS RETURN TO VENEZUELA IF HE WOULD FREE CAPTIVES. CARLOS ALLEGEDLY REPLIED LOFTILY THAT HE HAD WORK TO DO IN EUROPE AND NEAR EAST AND HIS FUTURE LAY THERE, NOT IN VENEZUELA.

3. REASON TERRORISTS DEMANDED 707 WAS THAT CARLOS CLAIMED TO BE ABLE TO FLY ONE HIMSELF. THE MINISTERS HAD IMPRESSION HE MEANT WHAT HE SAID.

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4. AMOUZEGAR AND YAMANI WERE SINGLED OUT AS ENEMIES BY CARLOS BECAUSE THEY WOULD NOT SIGN DECLARATION AT VIENNA AND THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE FEAR FOR THEIR LIVES, BUT HE EVENTUALLY WARMED UP EVEN TO THEM AND ALL HIS CAPTIVES FINALLY GREW TO HAVE A CERTAIN ADMIRATION FOR HIM.

5. ALGERIAN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY ABDESALEM, ON OTHER HAND, WAS TREATED AS A FRIENDLY FROM THE BEGINNING AND WAS ALLOWED TO CHOOSE THE PERSONS ON HIS DELEGATION TO ACCOMPANY HIM.

6. ATMOSPHERE AT ALGIERS WAS GOOD. ATMOSPHERE AT TRIPOLI VERY BAD, HOWEVER. CARLOS MADE MUCH OF FACT, TO HIS CAPTIVES, THAT PLANE PARKED IN FRONT OF VIP LOUNGE AT ALGIERS, AND NOT AT REMOTE CORNER OF FIELD AS AT TRIPOLI, AND THAT HE WAS RECEIVED BY THREE MEMBERS REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL IN VIP LOUNGE AND TREATED AS CIVILIZED PRISONER. THIS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO EASING OF DANGEROUS SITUATION. PARKER

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